



Staff Report

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING PROPOSITION 22 THE LOCAL TAXPAYER, PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION PROTECTION ACT OF 2010

Honorable Mayor and Council Members:

Summary

Local government funds are critical to provide police and fire, emergency response, parks and other vital services that residents rely on every day. Gas tax funds are vital to maintain and improve our local streets, to make road safety improvements, and relieve traffic congestion. Despite the fact that voters have repeatedly passed measures to prevent the State from taking these revenues, the State has seized and borrowed billions of dollars in local government and transportation funds in the past few years.

Background and Discussion

A coalition of local government, transportation and transit advocates filed a constitutional amendment with the California Attorney General, called the *Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act of 2010* which will be on the November 2010 statewide ballot as Proposition 22. The approval of this ballot measure would close loopholes and change the constitution to prevent further taking or interfering with tax revenues dedicated to funding local government services.

General Plan/Vision Statement

Quality of life in all California Cities is better today because of the actions of the League of California Cities. Proposition 22 on the November 2010 ballot will help to stop further raids from the State on local funds (i.e. Belmont).

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact to this report.

Public Contact

Posting of City Council agenda

Recommendation

Staff recommends that Council approve the attached resolution.

Alternatives

1. Take no action

Attachments

A. Resolution

Respectfully submitted,

Joni Stallings
Executive Assistant

Thomas Fil
Acting City Manager

Staff Contact:

Joni Stallings, Executive Assistant
650.595.7408
jonis@belmont.gov

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELMONT
SUPPORTING PROPOSITION 22 THE LOCAL TAXPAYER, PUBLIC SAFETY
AND TRANSPORTATION PROTECTION ACT OF 2010**

WHEREAS, California voters have repeatedly and overwhelmingly passed separate ballot measures to stop State raids of local government funds, and to dedicate the taxes on gasoline to fund local and state transportation improvement projects; and,

WHEREAS, these local government funds are critical to provide the police and fire, emergency response, parks, libraries, and other vital local services that residents rely upon every day; gas tax funds are vital to maintain and improve local streets and roads, to make road safety improvements, relieve traffic congestion, and provide mass transit; and,

WHEREAS, despite the fact that voters have repeatedly passed measures to prevent the State from taking these revenues dedicated to funding local government services and transportation improvement projects, the State Legislature has seized and borrowed billions of dollars in local government and transportation funds in the past few years; and,

WHEREAS, this year's borrowing and raids of local government, redevelopment and transit funds, as well as previous, ongoing raids of local government and transportation funds have lead to severe consequences, such as layoffs of police, fire and paramedic first responders, fire station closures, stalled economic development, healthcare cutbacks, delays in road safety improvements, public transit fare increases and cutbacks in public transit services; and,

WHEREAS, State politicians in Sacramento have continued to ignore the will of the voters, and current law provides no penalties when state politicians take or borrow these locally-dedicated funds; and,

WHEREAS, a coalition of local government, transportation and transit advocates filed a constitutional amendment with the California Attorney General, called the *Local Taxpayer, Public Safety, and Transportation Protection Act of 2010*, which will be on the November 2010 statewide ballot as Proposition 22; and,

WHEREAS, approval of this ballot initiative would close loopholes and change the constitution to further prevent State politicians in Sacramento from seizing, diverting, shifting, borrowing, transferring, suspending or otherwise taking or interfering with tax revenues dedicated to funding local government services, including redevelopment, or dedicated to transportation improvement projects and mass transit.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Belmont formally endorses Proposition 22, the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act of 2010, a proposed constitutional amendment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we hereby authorize the listing of the City of Belmont in support of Proposition 22, the Local Taxpayer, Public Safety and Transportation Protection Act of 2010, and instruct staff to fax a copy of this resolution to campaign offices at 916.442.3510.

* * * * *

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly and regularly passed and adopted by the City Council of the City of Belmont at a regular meeting thereof held on August 10, 2010, by the following vote:

AYES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

NOES, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSTAIN, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

ABSENT, COUNCILMEMBERS: _____

APPROVED: _____
CLERK of the City of Belmont

MAYOR of the City of Belmont